

repealing the present probate law, and instituting a new one in its stead in the shortest possible manner, with a less fee than is now allowed by law for winding up estates of deceased persons; read and adopted.

Resolution of the Senate that a committee be appointed on the part of the Senate, to take into consideration the propriety of passing additional laws regulating the sale of spirituous liquors; read and adopted.

Messrs. Holland, Lytle, Durst, Guinn and Allen, were appointed said committee.

Mr. Weatherford moved that the Senate adjourn until three o'clock, P. M.; lost.

On motion of Mr. Paschal, the Senate adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

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#### THURSDAY, November 17, 1853.

The Senate was called to order by the President pursuant to adjournment—roll called—quorum present.

The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Wren presented the petition of Mary J. Woodward, asking for relief; referred to the committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Kyle, chairman of the committee on Roads, Bridges and Ferries, to whom was referred a bill to amend the 2d section of an act amending an act authorizing and requiring the county courts to regulate roads, reported the same back to the Senate and recommended its passage.

Mr. Potter introduced a bill concerning certain liabilities reported by the Auditor and Comptroller, and confirmed by the Legislature; read first time.

Mr. Holland offered the following resolution:

*Resolved by the Senate,* That the 32d degree of north latitude, commencing on the eastern boundary of the State, be and the same is hereby regarded as the basis for the general direction of the Pacific and Atlantic Railroad.

*Resolved, 2d,* That the Senate committee on Internal Improvements be, and they are hereby instructed to so amend any bill providing for the construction and extension of said route centrally through the State, on said basis, as to embody said basis in its provisions as directed in the above resolution.

Mr. Scarborough introduced a bill to amend an act to incorporate the city of Brownsville, approved February 7th, A. D., 1853; read first time.

Mr. Allen introduced a bill to re-organize the Grayson, Cook and Denton county land districts; read first time.

Mr. Potter introduced a bill to repeal a joint resolution for the punishment of vagrants, approved January 10, 1839; read first time.

Mr. Weatherford offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Senate will proceed to classify its members under the requirements of the Constitution, on Monday the 28th instant.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The report of the committee on the Judiciary on a bill to incorporate the Grand Temple of Honor of the State of Texas and subordinate Temples under its jurisdiction, offering a substitute therefor; read and the substitute adopted.

Mr. Kyle offered the following amendment: That the Legislature reserve the power to repeal or amend this act; lost.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed.

Report of the committee on the Judiciary on a bill for the relief of James McGloin, offering an amendment thereto; read, amendment adopted, and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

Report of the committee on Public Lands on a bill supplementary to an act supplementary to and amending an act for the relief of citizens of Mercer's Colony, of date February 2d, 1850, recommending a substitute therefor; read, substitute adopted, and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Jowers presented the petition of T. G. Broocks, President of the board of directors of the New Orleans, Texas and Pacific Railway Company, for the extension of the New Orleans and Opelousas Railway through Texas.

Mr. Jowers also introduced a bill supplementary to an act to establish the New Orleans, Texas and Pacific Railway Company, for the extension of the New Orleans, Algiers and Opelousas Railway through Texas, approved February 16th, 1852; read first time.

A bill to punish certain offences therein named; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Scarborough, referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

A bill to amend the 31st and 64th sections of an act to organize justices' courts, and to define the powers and jurisdiction of the same, approved March 20th, 1848; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Paschal, referred to the same committee.

A bill defining the duties of clerks of the district courts in certain cases; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Edwards, referred to the same committee.

A bill for the relief of William Griffin; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Edwards, referred to the committee on Private Land Claims.

A bill to dispose by entry, sale, survey and patent of small tracts or fractions of the public domain, consisting of not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres each, confined on all, or, at least, two sides, by pre-existing lines of other surveys or grants; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Gage, referred to the committee on Public Lands.

A bill requiring all genuine evidences of claim to land to be located by a time therein specified; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Allen, referred to the same committee.

A joint resolution to amend the Constitution of the State of Texas; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Paschal, referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

On motion of Mr. Lott, the Senate adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, November 18, 1853.

The Senate was called to order by the President pursuant to adjournment—roll called—quorum present.

The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Jowers, chairman of the committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred a bill requiring all genuine evidences of claim to land to be located by a time therein specified, reported the same back to the Senate and recommended its passage.

Mr. Jowers, from the same committee, made the following report:

The committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred a bill to be entitled an act to reduce into one act, and amend the several acts granting to settlers on vacant public domain pre-emption privileges, have instructed me to report the bill back to the Senate, with the following amendment, and recommend its passage:

Insert in the caption, between the words "to" and "settlers," "actual."

The committee are of the opinion that it is not the true policy of our State, with her one hundred millions of vacant public domain, a small public debt, and two or three millions of surplus money in her treasury, to attempt to speculate over the heads of her citizens in her unappropriated lands. To entirely hold up, or to fix a high price on her public lands at this time the committee are of opinion would greatly retard the settlement of the